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CONTACTS

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In relation to the recent investigations by scientists that the sexual orientation of men could be determined by certain genes of chromosome X, the International Lesbian Gay Association, commented, "We don't object to scientific study, although the interest in finding an explanation for homosexuality can be based in prejudice and discrimination, considering that so many other questions concerning human beings are not investigated with the same persistence. In any case, whatever reason might be found for the origin of homosexuality, there is no denying the practical existence of homosexuality throughout history in all places and cultures."

The possible biological determinism of sexual orientation does not add anything new to the lives of lesbians and gay men and will not be much different from other biological differences such as colour of skin or eyes or hair...

Equality is the guarantee of the right to be different.

It is precisely the same science that clarified, with the Kinsey report, that up to 37% of the population has practised homosexuality with greater or lesser frequency during their lives and for that reason, the findings are certainly plausible.

However, these findings have ideological consequences. Could they be used by those wanting to eliminate the gay gene? Can these findings stop discrimination?

No.

The only guarantee of a democratic society is the recognition of diversity and the defence of the right to be different as a basis of equality between people in a modern democracy with basic fundamental human rights.

Recently, various international institutions and the European Parliament, have condemned discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation. This has been recognised in the new Spanish Penal Code which was ratified on the 8th of November 1995 by the Congress of Deputies; similar measures have been approved in other democratic countries.

No one must forget that we are in the midst of the 50th anniversary of the liberation of Nazi camps where the holocaust took place killing people for their race, ideology, sexual orientation, religion or disability. We must remember that any discriminatory use of science could be a great abuse and insult to the most fundamental human rights.

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愛之樂章



第一次注意威廉時，並不因他有一張英俊的面孔或是他的身體，是他演奏時那種完全忘我的神情。但我

不否認他是

名美男子，他是澳州人，很高約有六呎二寸體重超過二百磅。在看見他前，我並不知道一個人能夠這樣全情投入音樂，當我看見他面上那痛苦的神情，我只想緊緊地擁抱著他，對他說：「不要緊，什麼事也有我，沒有解不開的結。」當然我沒有這樣做，還是靜靜聽他的演奏。

當晚，去聽演奏是給朋友霸王硬上弓拉去的，我不是不喜歡音樂，但要我四平八穩地聽兩個多鐘的演奏，對我來說是件苦差。在家中，我喜歡播純音樂，躺在沙發上看小說，倦了便睡上一兩個小時。我，並不是一個老粗，我會看紅樓夢，還會彈古箏自娛。

音樂開始不久，我的雙眼便開始四處尋找有趣的人，當我看見他痛苦的神情時是震驚的。他的眼合著，眉深鎖，唇在顫動，而他面上每一個細包都好像受到極大的痛苦，我真的不懂，一個人竟然可以這樣投入音樂，而人在痛苦時的表情也可這樣美。我的視線沒有離開他。

我開始想，他的手是如此靈活地在弦線上跳動，而另外的又熟練地上下拉動，兩者一經配合便彈奏出如此美妙的樂章，實在美妙。我妒忌他的樂器，可以讓威廉在它身上彈奏，我也渴望威廉在我身上彈奏一首愛之歌。我幻想著他的手，怎樣在我的背上輕輕的跳動，及輕撫我的身軀，而我就靠前吻他的唇，雙手插在他的髮間，感受由那千支煩惱絲傳來的力量，然後我會慢慢地解開他襯衫，他有一個毛鬆鬆的胸

膛，是結實而強壯的，我把面貼在上面，而他用他那雙粗壯的手恨恨抱著我，然後說我愛你。此刻我會回望著他說我愛你一生一世。像你的樂器永遠在你身邊，和你一起感受喜怒哀樂。

時光飛逝，終於到了曲終人散，觀眾報以熱烈的掌聲，他們滿足地離開。而我怎辦，我的心已隨他步入後台，我已不能再見他，我應該怎辦？到後台找他，對他說我是男同性戀，你是否？我可否追求你。想想，別人聽了會有什麼反應，可能立即召警衛帶我走。現在不走也不行了，會場內只有我的朋友和我。

第二天，我給電話亞凡，問他昨天的演唱會還有多少場，他說那是他們今季最後一場演奏，要聽便要等下季。我們真的沒有緣份？

我喜歡玩網絡，在網上可以跟不同類型的人溝通，它的資訊是取之不盡。更可以刊登你的大作。

今次我在網絡上登了以下這段文章：那一夜，我孤枕難眠，我的心已隨你而去，我不介懷你奪走它，我只希望你善待它。它因你而去，但我不希望因你而傷，請不要把一顆已死的心還我，好嗎？

第二天，當我進入網絡，有以下的回覆：朋友，你的心雖已跟他而去，我想他會善待它，我相信他不會還你一顆已死的心，相信希望，他必然會還你一顆愉快的心。威廉。

當我讀到最後那兩個字時，我的心跳得很急，我問自己會否是台上演奏的他？無論是與否，我也要試試和他聯絡，我即時傳電子郵件給他。我說：多謝你的惠問，你真是一個有心的人，這樣安惠我這個可鄰人，我也希望他會歸還一顆快樂的心給我。我可否繼續和你通訊？王俊朗。我希望他能即時回覆，我坐在電腦前，雙眼望著螢幕，等候他的回覆，我一定要先和他保持聯絡，才可知曉他是不是他。一個鐘過去，二

個鐘過去，天空也由漆黑轉為魚肚白再轉為藍也收不到他的消息。上班時間到了，只好關上電腦，帶著熊貓眼和一顆等待的心回公司。雖然人在辦公室但心不在，老是做錯事，同事也看出，便關心地問：「米高，是否不適？要否回家休息呀？」

「多謝你關心，沒什麼，只是昨晚沒睡好。」

「在香港你又沒有家人，要自己要小心身體。不要捱壞呀。你不是很喜欢吃我太太弄的紅燒肉嗎？今晚來我家吃飯好嗎？」

「多謝你。但我想我還是應該回家休息。下次吧。」不是不想去，而是紅燒肉還不及他的回覆重要。

下班後，我即時回家，衣服也來不及更換，便開啓電腦進入網絡，希望可以收到威廉的電子郵件，但沒有，他沒有給我任何消息，我的希望像石沈大海一樣無影無蹤。我沒有死心，我再次寫信給他，第二天回家，他也沒有覆，我每一天都給他一封信，說說我的生活及自己的興趣，希望終有一日他會覆我。皇天不負有心人，十日後我終於收到他的消息，他說他去了旅行，昨天才回香港，他說他不介意和我保持聯絡，他喜歡我，他也喜歡意樂，他還說，他的職業便是一名樂手。當我知道他是一名樂手後，我更加有信心，他便是他。

當然我沒有立即問他是否同性戀者。我們的通訊關係保持得非常良好，很多時我們還在電腦上談話或玩猜迷遊戲。經過兩個多月的網絡通訊，我們已經成為朋友，我知道他的事很多，他是澳州人，在香港已有三年獨居，他的興趣及事業一樣是一名樂師。到現在我還不能說百份百確定他便是我要的威廉，但從他那裡得到的消息，我大致可以肯定他便是演奏會上的男人，現在唯一要做的便是看他的真面目。

我沒有提及我是男同性戀者，亦沒

有問?機會終於來了。

我在電腦上打上:威廉,我們在網絡上已相識一段時間,我想邀請你吃晚飯,可以嗎?

他即時回答說:可以,星期六有空到我家吃飯嗎?我的廚藝不差。

我問他:你會弄紅燒肉嗎?

他答:你也喜歡吃嗎?我最能手的便是紅燒肉。你會來嗎?

我答:一定到,但我還未見過你的廬山真面目,我怎認你?

他說:我現在便掃描我的相給你,但不要取笑我。十分鐘後你便會收到我的相,到時我們再通訊吧。

我對自己說,十分鐘後這個等了二個多月的謎終於要揭鐘了。十分鐘並不是長時間,但不知為什麼當我望著電腦上的計時器時,只見它一秒一秒的跳,相當的慢,我說快些跳吧!你這個蠢東西,快些快些,我很不耐煩地在房中踱步。十分鐘後電腦影幕有反應了,他的容貌開始一行一行地在電腦上顯示,我終於

見到他了,我開心大叫大嚷,我大聲說太好了太好了,是他是他,是威廉。我立即再上網和他通訊說:星期六我會準時到。

那天我向公司請假,我要給自己最好的一面給他看,我先去理髮,然後再到相熟的美容院做美容,然後回家為今晚的約會選襯衫。而禮物我老早便為今次的約會做了一份禮物,是一個音樂盒,上面有一個大熊人在追一只小花貓。約會的時間是七時,我五時便已出發到他家,到他附近時還不到六時,我不想太早到達,因這是不禮貌。雖然我的心急如焚,但我對自己說,已經等了二個多月了,不防再等。一小時過去了,我可以親眼看到他,可以親口和他說話,不雖靠電腦的幫助。

他開門見我時,我想他已經知道我是同性戀者,因為我的眼睛已出買了我,我目不轉睛地看著他,他穿著一件短袖襯衫,胸前的鈕沒有扣上,可以看到他有一個毛鬆鬆及結實的胸膛,我真想張我的面埋在他的胸膛上,那感覺一定很妙。我站

在那里很久,直至他再請我入內,我才如夢初醒地隨他。

他的菜很美味,特別是那味紅燒肉,我吃了許多。我們沒有太多話,只是不時地望著對方微笑,他的笑是溫馨的。我喜歡看他的笑勝過他在演奏時的表情。飯後,我們在露台上喝茶,他喜歡中國文化。

我問他「人,你喜歡什麼人。」

他答「像你這樣的人,我喜歡。」他說時是認真的。

我們雙眼望著對方,有說不出的話,此時些刻語言對於我們已是一從阻隔,我們的身體已經告訴了對方我們的需要。

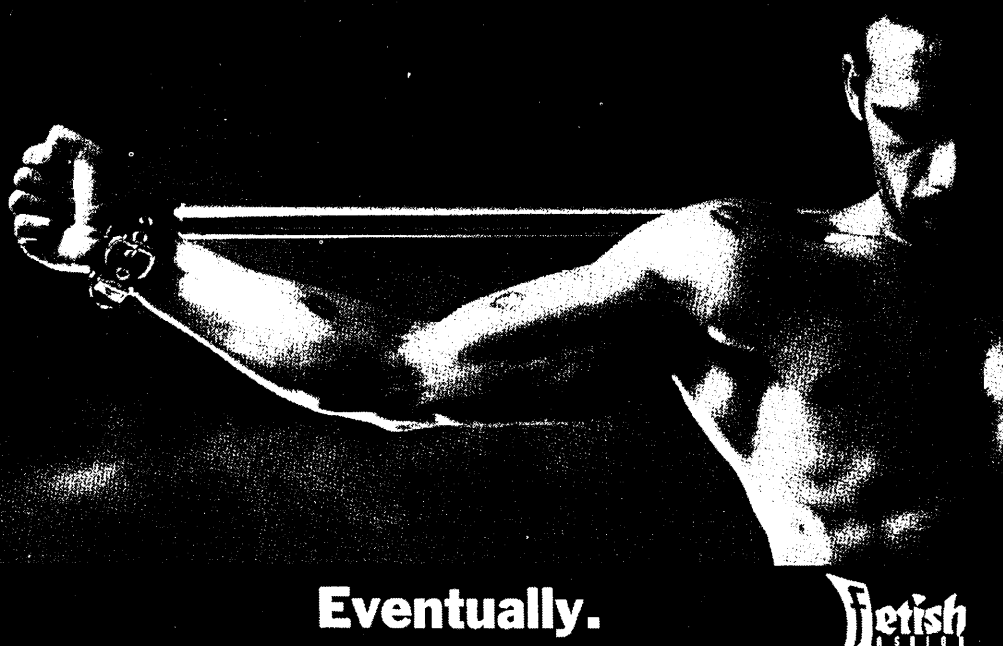
今晚我和朋友在聽演唱,朋友問我你是何時喜歡聽音樂會的。我沒有答他,只是示意他靜靜地恩賞音樂,演唱會中我的眼睛還是老瞪著威廉,雖然我的心還是隨他去,但我的身軀及靈魂也不是隨他一同回家嗎?最初,威廉不是答應還我一顆愉快的心嗎?

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France

French Right Wing National Front (FN) leader Jean-Marie Le Pen said that his party has no effeminate or queeny Gay members in their party. He was speaking following a recent murder of FN official Jean-Claude. Poulet-Dachary in Toulon. The police say that macho ex-solider had visited Gay bars before he died. Le Pen was reported to have said "There may be homosexuals in the FN but there are no queens among us". "If all homosexuals were murdered in France, there would be mass slaughter, especially among the establishment".

Australia

Gay police men could be coming out in force following comments made by Tasmania's Police Minister, Frank Madill. he has said that Gays are welcome in the Police Service. However, when asked are there any Gay police officers in Tasmania, he replied: Because we don't ask, we don't know. Last year Tasmania's law which made homosexual sex illegal was condemned by the United Nations Human Rights Committee (UNCHR) as violation of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

Denmark

Eigil Axlil, half of the first legally married Gay couple in the world, died Sept. 27 at the age of 71. Eigil and his lover of 46 years, Axel Axlil, were married in Copenhagen Oct. 1, 1989, the day Denmark became the first nation to recognise Gay marriage. Axel was the first person to come out publicly in Denmark, in 1948. He was sacked the next day from his accounting job at an auto-body shop. In a 1989 interview, Eigil said: "We just never could have dreamed we would get this far. Of course, we always hoped we would be fully accepted and have the same rights as others. "If everyone comes out of the closet, then this will happen everywhere," Eigil promised.

Eire

Dublin Police have appointed a liaison officer to work with the local Gay community. According to police, the move is an effort to improve relations. This move was welcomed by Lesbians and Gays Against Violence, the group that organised the open meeting which the announcement was made. Police also said they will review their practice of recording queerbashing (Pink Paper)

New Zealand

New Zealand's first transsexual Mayor was elected to office when Georgina Beyer was elected as the Mayor of Carterton District Council. Carterton District Council is in a small rural community in the Wairarapa, north of Wellington. Ms Beyer had been a very popular elected councillor on the Carterton District Council prior to standing for the office of Mayor.

Portugal

A Gay group has formed in Portugal, a country with no history of international involvement in the Gay movement. According to the International Lesbian and Gay Association (ILGA), the group calls itself "ILGA Portugal. They have registered the name of their organisation and have plans to raise money through jumble (rummage) sales and selling Gay postcards, calendars and books," the main ILGA reported.

UK

The Royal Household have banned Gay male staff from bringing their partners to the annual Christmas Ball in Buckingham Palace, according to the Pink Paper. Master of the Royal Household, Major General Sir Simon Cooper sent a memo to staff: "Gentlemen may not bring another gentleman unless the guest is his father, brother or son" However, the ban does not apply to Lesbian staff. "Ladies may bring another lady as a partner if they wish", Cooper wrote.

Thailand

Thailand's 81,000 commercial sex workers and 5,000 free-lance prostitutes are using condoms in greater numbers, the Public Health Ministry reported last month. Claiming more than 30 million pieces of condom are being used now annually in Thailand compared with only about four million used 10 years ago," communicable Disease Control Department Deputy Director General Vichai Hokevivat said, quoting a new sex survey conducted by six government agencies. "The most-common places to purchase sex are restaurants followed by massage parlours".

Sri Lanka

Companions on a Journey, a private organisation that helps disadvantaged communities, decided in January to conduct an assessment of the needs of Sri Lanka's Gay and Lesbian population. The group was established, in 1992, to provide sexual health services for communities at risk, including those infected with HIV. According to statistics from the health department, 159 Sri Lankans have so far tested positive, while another 6,000 are HIV-positive but do not yet know it. The country's penal code still attracts a 12 year prison sentence for homosexual acts.

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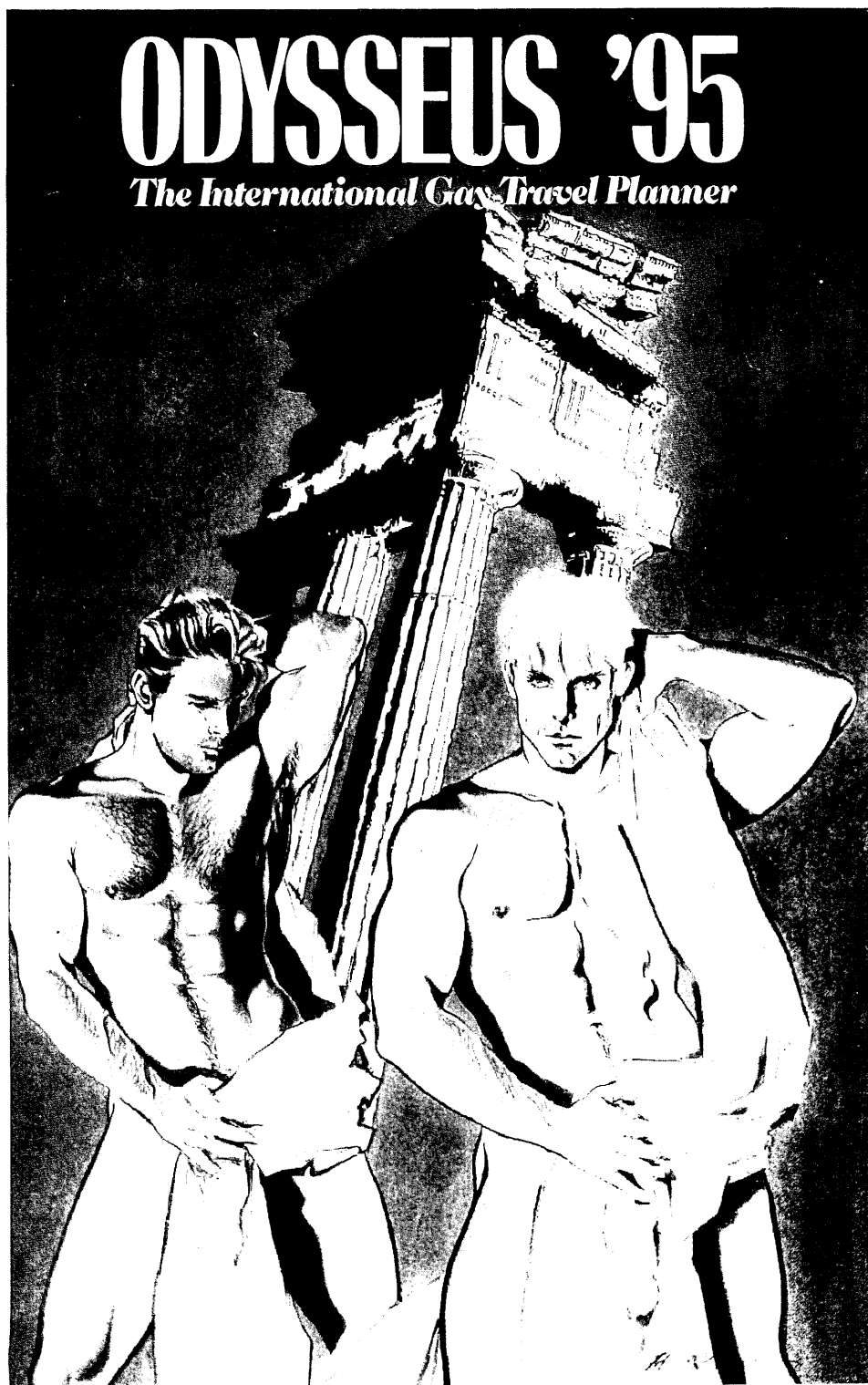
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Out about

Do you run or own a Gay business? *Contacts Magazine* has the most comprehensive and up to date Gay guide on what's happening in Hong Kong and it's free! Just write or fax us on company headed paper with details. We'll do the rest its' as easy as ABC.



Are holding their Christmas party, Cruise-Mas, on the 23rd December. Described by the organisers as a night "full of romance and intimacy" the event takes place at the Pavilion Restaurant, 12-22, Queen's Road East, Wan Chai. The programme includes mask matching, body touch games and holds many surprises. The evening, sponsored by *Contacts Magazine*, also includes a full western-style buffet. Details 7112 8903 a/c 8862 Andy Lo.

Christmas Ball

organised by the 10% Club, sponsored by among others *Contacts Magazine*, takes place on 23rd December—as reported last month. There are still a few tickets available



2314 8726

Yeah,

A Christian fellowship located in Tsimshatsui, Kowloon Hong Kong has established the Ministry to the Poor Project, which is helping the impoverished poor (sic), the oppressed, the downtrodden and the highly depraved malnourished citizens of our nation (sic). From a mail shot By Jesus Christ, The Name Above Every Name, Inc.

Sure

Rumours, Rumours
 Inside information has it that there is a new Gay bar to open soon in Central. Heavy rumours, you know the kind that hit you every time you go into a Bar, suggest the bar will be for serious drinkers and their friends.

Swing Ski Week in the Swiss Alps. International Gay

takes place for the fourth time from the 16th to the 23rd of March 1996. SWING offers a great opportunity to spend a splendid week skiing in the heart of the Swiss Alps in a gay friendly environment. The ski slopes are attractive to beginner, advanced skiers and snowboarders alike. Swing also offers luxury accommodation at a *** Hotel for the sensational price of SFR. 990.00 (staying in a apartment for four people with two bedrooms, breakfast, dinner, ski pass and all activities included). There is also time to relax in a cosy atmosphere. The Piano Bar, a lovely disco, exquisite cuisine together with the extra activities will add up to a great experience.

For further information contact
Swing 96, Wagerweg 8, 8810 Horgen,
Switzerland.



QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"Gays (in Paris) are very ageist. I'm 55, and I can't get into most of the gay bars. There's usually a doorman who'll keep people out over 50. Even the baths turn people away. Most people over 50 would feel uncomfortable in a bar where everyone was under 30. But having it as a policy is mean-spirited."

Gay author, Edmund White to
Etcetera magazine.

CE TOP = FUN

CE Top are hosting another Isvara event on Sunday 17th December from 3-6 p.m. The first item on the programme is a creative kissing competition...quite what that entails we're not sure, but it does sound like a fun place to be. Entrance is only \$50. The event will be conducted in Cantonese.



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We wish everyone a Very

Merry Christmas

and a

Happy New Year.

OUTRIGHT

Coming Out and respect for other peoples rights.

Maybe the whole world being out about their sexuality is what some people dream of, but the reality is not everyone is, many are still locked in that old closet. And, many people argue, it goes against the right of privacy for the individual to insist or demand that others 'Come Out.'. Like so many things in life, it is a personal decision and should be protected and respected.

right to achieve another. In the end, without the right to privacy, the fight for Gay rights diminishes far more by the victory of equality but at the cost to privacy.

Those who are out and those still in the closet should be respected and complimented on their work. Respect for other peoples' rights must be part of our own values if we as Gay people ever hope to truly live in a space or time of equality.

Think twice before you bash or belittle another in anything. Consider very carefully when you use your own values of right and wrong to tell another that he or she is right or wrong. We are a diverse group of people and the hope of a group of visionaries.

People, who though not perfect, strive to create a place where others, diverse and individual, can live together in equality. It is true that equality for all does not yet exist within the current structure of our society. It can be achieved not through alienation or conformity but, I believe, through mutual respect for others based upon their value as fellow beings.

Don't think for a minute that because some people are worldly wise and intelligent they know what is right for you. There are those who cannot or perhaps will not accept or appreciate every level of contribution. Equally, there are people who do accept and are grateful for whatever contribution individuals make.

Being out is a personal choice and not one that everyone should be required to make. If a person feels that they want to be out, that is their choice. It is their choice if they choose to be in the closet. One of the often mystifying and confusing positions on homosexuality and equal rights are that it is something that is not be a choice, but unlike say skin colour, or disability, it can be concealed.

Only Gays fight for and recognise that Gays as a people are capable of loving and being loved. We are as worthy of equality

Do It Your Way *Do It Your Way*

By Danny Wong

Respect for people is at the root of what Gays are fighting for. We want respect for ourselves and for those we love. If we

are going to fight for rights, we must make sure we don't destroy or trample on the rights of others in our quest. Each persons' vision of what is right and wrong is different.

I have heard people telling others to stop their own way of thinking and start thinking in another way. What make anyone's rights or fight for equality any more important than the rights of others? Would you slight or alienate them because they are not conforming to your standards? What are the acceptable ways to fight or strive for equality?

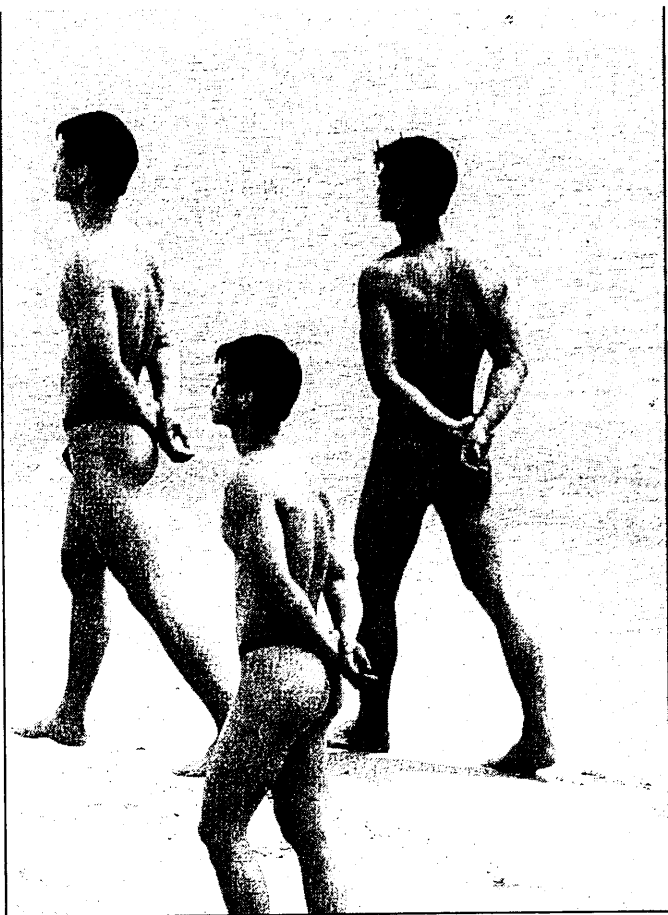
The simple fact is; privacy is a value worth protecting in our ever shrinking world of public forum and debate, as to what and who are acceptable. It is a value that should not be sacrificed for the narrow and limited vision of those who would destroy one

and civil protection as any individual or group. It is not an issue of being out, but is an issue of humanity.

Robbing or disrespecting the rights and privacy of others is not going to help the fight in the long run.

Be out. Be closeted. It is each individual's choice and I am glad that we still have that choice. Be Gay and identify as such, but do not make the mistake for one minute of thinking that those, who are aware of their individual rights, will allow anyone to limit their choice and freedom. I want equality, but not at the expense of freedom.

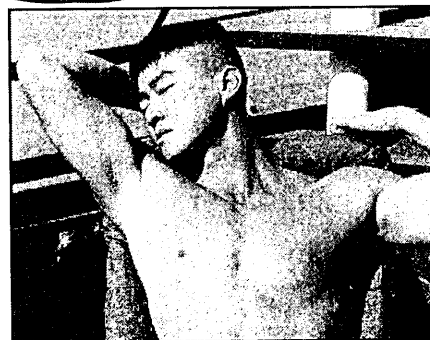
Sexuality and who you love will not matter in a society of equals except to the person that you love.



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VISIBILITY

VISIBILITY

Anjaree, the Lesbian feminist group in Bangkok that was founded in 1986, continues to grow and grow. An interview in the national newspaper, "The Sunday Nation", plus an interview in a new national magazine and on national television, has meant that more and more women in Thailand and Thai women living abroad know about the Lesbian group.

The publicity has meant an increase in work. Anjaree rents a small office and recently raised money to pay a part-time Lesbian to worker? During one recent week, the office received 94 letters from women who thought until they read the magazine article or saw the television interview — they were the only woman who loved women.

Anjaree works to create a safe and supportive space for Thai Lesbians. The group also sponsored the first Asian Lesbian Network (ALN) conference, which was held five years ago in Bangkok. Anjaree members, and other women in the Asian Lesbian Network, are also very active in getting Lesbian issues on the agenda of the Asian and Pacific non-governmental organisations' meeting, held in preparation for the UN women's conference in Beijing.

Unlike some countries, there is little physical violence against Lesbians in Thailand.

But the lack of positive information about Lesbianism, and in particular the pressure to marry, means that many women feel alone and isolated.

A recent letter to Anjaree reflects this sense of invisibility. "Dear Sisters," the letter reads, "May I tell you something about myself? My name is Kaew, I have long hair and don't look like a tomboy at all, but I do feel ashamed to let my parents, my brothers and sisters or even tell my friends know about this. I dare not turn to anyone for advice. At this point, I feel lost,

"Many of our Lesbian friends are obliged to hide the nature of their sexuality; sometimes without asking themselves why they need to do so."

not knowing what to do."

This writer may be lucky because she lives in Bangkok, and could attend the monthly Anjaree meeting, where, on an average night, over 30 Lesbians crowd into the Anjaree office to talk about issues ranging from personal identity to family to love.

"Most of us women who love women are obliged to live in disguise," said Anjana Suvamananda, one of Anjaree's founders. "Many of our Lesbian friends are obliged to hide the nature of their sexuality; some

times without asking themselves why they need to do so."

There are many references in Thai history to Lesbians. Several months ago, Anjaree organised a visit to a Buddhist temple near Bangkok, where a mural inside the temple depicted two women being punished for being sexual with each other. The mural was several hundred years old. The phrase 'len phuen' ('playing with friends') was traditionally used to describe Lesbian sex. There are also references in the records of the royal court to Lesbian sex. There were palace laws against concubines of the king and maids engaging in 'len phuen'. For a first offence, a woman could receive 50 lashes; a second meant her neck would be marked with a tattoo and the woman was forced to do embroidery. For the third offence, she could be expelled from the inner court. It was not until 1900 that a law was made that prohibited ordinary people from homosexual activity. This law copied from the West, was abolished in 1956 because "there was no such case ever reported," according to Anjaree.

Despite this evidence, some Thais still think that Lesbianism is something imported from the West. "I can't recall any Western influence that pushed me in the direction of other women," said Anjana. "The only thing about sexuality I learned from Western films and novels was about relationships between heroes and heroines, men and women. I would say that any influence from Western culture led me to think that I should be interested in men, not women," she went onto say.

For more information about Anjaree and the growing visibility of Thai Lesbians, write:

Anjaree, P.O.Box 322, Rajdamnoen, Bangkok 10200, Thailand.

BEING WITH HER

Camille Ho

A smile,
Just a smile,
Turns my head drunk with songs.

A touch,
just a touch,
soothes my soul, weary with fighting.

A kiss,
just a kiss,
Teases me with hop and longing.

A caress,
Just a caress,
Awakens tender desires and soft-sigh yearnings.

**My love, never do I feel more heavenly,
Than when we, two woman-souls,
Meet, unite and blend as one,
While I tremble, Joyous, beneath your fingers.**

GETTING

IT

RIGHT

By **Barrie Brandon**

The Hong Kong Standard has long been known amongst the Gay groups as the most homophobic (although I hear that the South China Morning Post is fast catching up) of English Newspapers. So when I heard they had published a 'Gay' story I virtually rushed, for the first time in months, to buy a copy.

The Sunday Standards', Hong Kong Life Magazine is obviously trying to get a bigger share of the market, groovy is the word they use. Alas they just can't get it right.

They list, in the 29th November issue, as Yin Yang (YY) as being the only Gay club in Hong Kong. Wrong on two counts; YY closed over two months ago and as any reader of Contacts Magazine knows there are many more clubs and bars around.

Life's Katie Whitehead also tried to get the magazine upbeat with a 'guide to going out focus on AIDS'. Can you imagine two whole pages of rehashed news from the past 10 months? Is this really what the paper buying public want?

Whitehead mentions three local 'celebrities' in her reworked article; Mike Sinclair, JJ Chan and Keith Kwan. All of whom died this year. What the article doesn't mention is that all three were out Gay men. Why wasn't this important fact included?

It seems to me just another way that the Standard shows it really hasn't changed its' homophobic stance.

Shame on AIDS Concern Event Co-ordinator Charlotte Lam for not telling us that the candlelit vigil on 1st December was jointly organised by Quilt Project, AIDS Care, the Drop-In centre as well as AIDS Concern. Seems she's following in the footsteps of many others in AIDS Concern in trying to hog the limelight.

On the subject of correctness, can someone please send Bella Luk, a new member of staff at AIDS Concern, on a training

She doesn't seem to have grasped the point that AIDS Concern is only popular by default.

course to understand AIDS, its' implications and the appropriate language to use when referring to people with AIDS (PWA's)?

A good place to start might be by reading the July/ August edition of Contacts Magazine where we outlined acceptable language.

We'll be kind this time and take pity, as Bella was only a nurse when recruited to the job, with no idea of the implications of AIDS or on the people it affects. But please AIDS Concern spend some of the

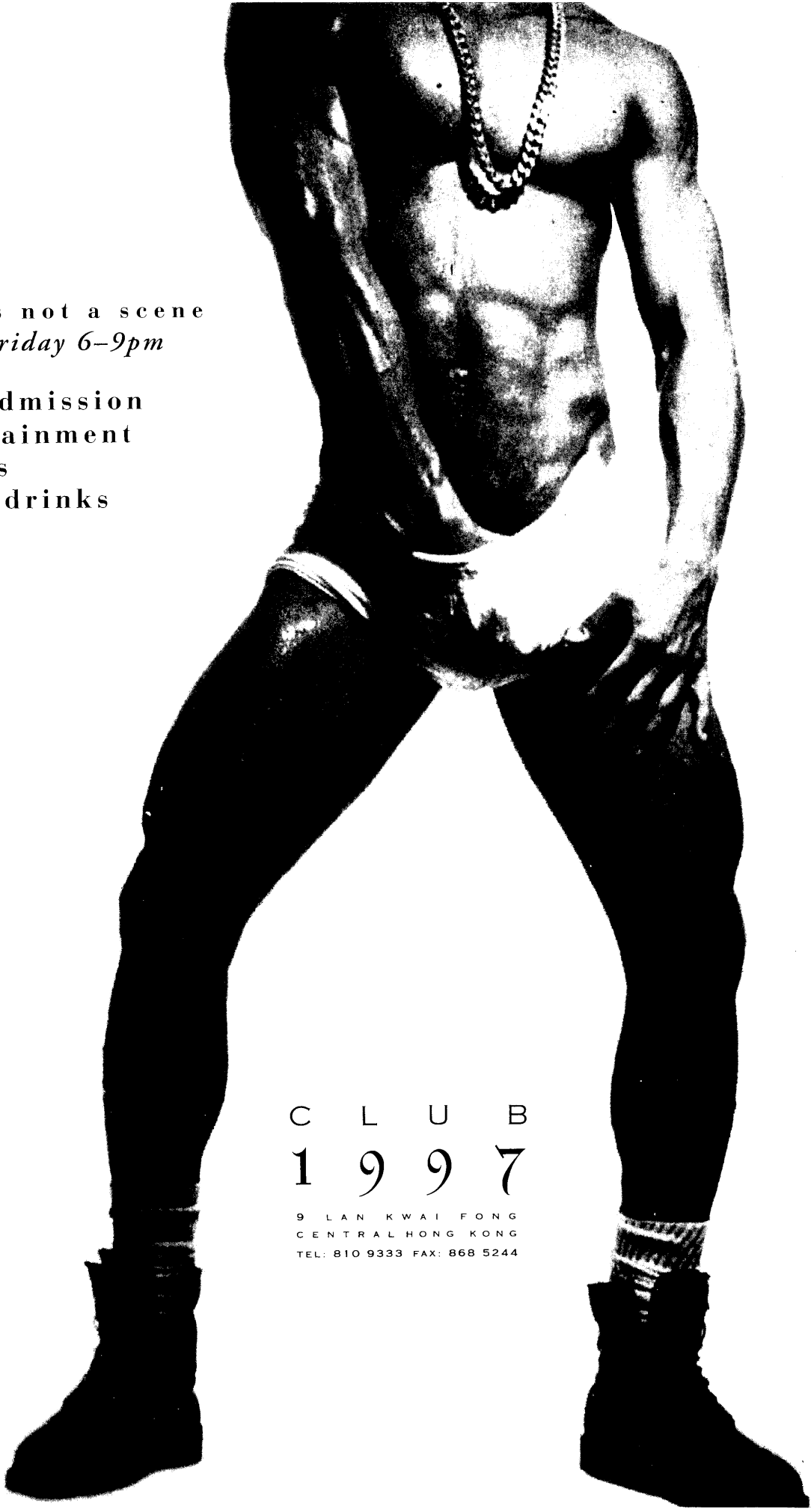
great lumps of cash that the Gay community keep throwing at you for something that will benefit us.

Getting back to the largely erroneous Standard article...Whitehead wrongly states the HK QUILT Project has been around since 1987. In fact it was started by the ubiquitous Maureen Mc Ginley and its' only been going since 1992.

The closeted calendar promoted by the 20's something (20's? A good number of them won't see 30 again, I know) also came in for some attention. And there was Philip Bachler again laying it on that it isn't a Gay calendar. The quote that so far the split on buying is 50-50 between men and women is absolutely laughable. With so many outlets selling the calendar how can they have any idea of sales, let alone the gender of the people buying them? Are we seriously being asked to believe that all the outlets are reporting sales on a daily basis?

The article droned on and on. Clearly believing that AIDS Concern is the best thing since sliced bread and not just a poor imitation of some of the very hardworking and caring AIDS charities, the Gay Mens Health Crisis and the Terence Higgins Trust come to mind, Whitehead extolled us to give, give, give to AIDS Concern. She doesn't seem to have grasped the point that AIDS Concern is only popular by default. Something that the Gay community urgently needs to do something about.

If Katie Whitehead wants to continue writing maybe there's an opening as Disney Productions for someone with such a vivid imagination?



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Run out of things to say?

Want a few new ideas? Well, we were scouring for some ourselves a while ago and came across these one-liners.

Hope they work for you...

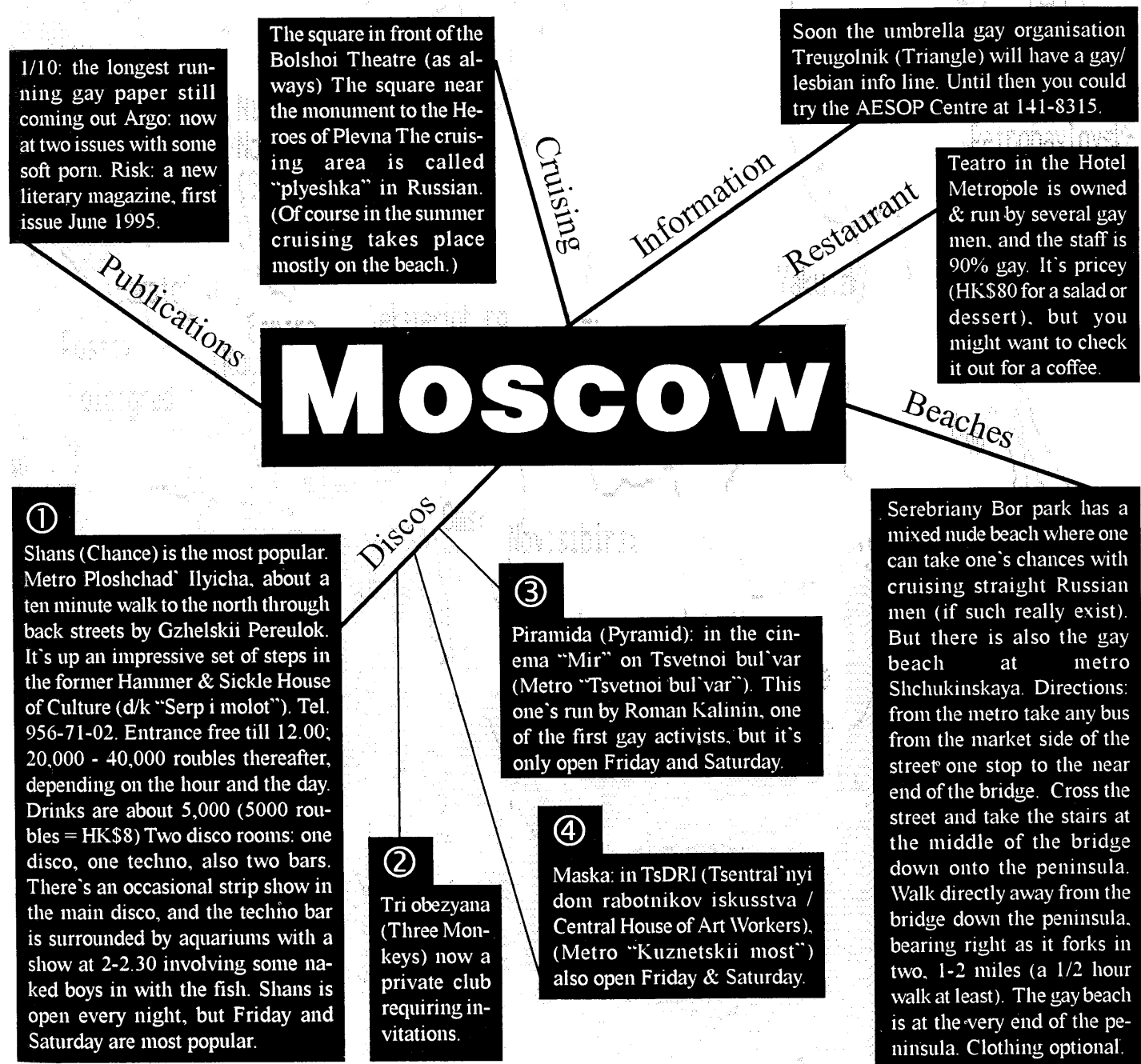
- ☺ Do you believe in love at first sight?...Or do I have to walk by again?
- ☺ Is that a mirror in your pocket? 'cos I can easily see myself in your pants.
- ☺ Tomorrow morning, do you want me to call you or nudge you?
- ☺ Your parents must be bakers 'cos they sure put out a great set of buns
- ☺ Your parents must be thieves 'cos someone stole the stars from the sky and put them in your eyes.
- ☺ Do you have a quarter? 'Cos I promised I would call my mother as soon as I fell in love.
- ☺ Do you have some Irish in you? Would you like a little Irish in you?
- ☺ Pardon me, I seem to have lost my phone number, can I borrow yours?
- ☺ Lick finger, and rub it on the clothing of the person, then rub it on yours. Just a light touch will do. "So, what do you say we get out of these wet clothes..."
- ☺ Would you like to go home for a pizza and a f***? *Slap* What you don't like pizza?
- ☺ Your legs must be tired 'cos you've been running through my mind all night.
- ☺ That shirt is very becoming on you, of course if I were that shirt I would be coming on you too.
- ☺ Have you ever been licked until tears rolled from your eyes?
- ☺ If I told you I liked your body would you hold it against me?
- ☺ I heard milk was good for your body, but damn You must drink gallons at a time
- ☺ Hi, my name is xxxxx. Don't forget, because you'll be screaming it later tonight.
- ☺ Excuse me, but could you give me directions? To where? Your heart...
- ☺ F*** me if I'm wrong, but isn't your name Gretchen?
- ☺ Come over here and sit on my lap—we can talk about the first thing that pops up.
- ☺ Excuse me, mame, is that dress felt? Would you like it to be?
- ☺ Do you sleep on your stomach?...no?....Can I ?
- ☺ The voices in my head say you should go out with me....
- ☺ Hey, is it hot in here, or is it just you.
- ☺ If I could rearrange the alphabet, I'd put you and I together.
- ☺ (Gesture for person to come over) I just made you come with one finger, imagine what I could do with the rest of my body.
- ☺ Person A: I'm sorry, were you talking to me?person B: No Person A: Well then, please start.
- ☺ Pez?
- ☺ If I follow you home, will you keep me?
- ☺ Pardon me, but may I attempt to seduce you?
- ☺ (hold up first two fingers on one hand) Know why you should use these two fingers to masturbate? No, why? Because they're mine.
- ☺ A:*walks up to B and gently pulls up their collar and looks at the tag in their shirt a hmph and a long pause earthen A walks away B: What the hell? What was that? etc... A: Oh... I was just checking to see if it said "Made in Heaven."
- ☺ I've got the ship, you've got the harbour...what say we tie up for the night?
- ☺ A: Did it hurt? B: What? A: When you fell from the sky as an angel.

Try 'em if they don't work....maybe it's the way you tell 'em?

Guide to

Four years after the first gay pride march and two after decriminalisation of sodomy, gay life in Russia continues to develop.

Summer life seems to centre on the beach, especially with the record heat wave that had temperatures in the 80s for weeks (to say nothing of the hot water being off in many sections of Moscow). People spend all day (and daylight extends almost till midnight in June) basking in the sun, gossiping, swimming, playing volleyball, or prowling the bushes. At night there are discos, where people tend to stay till the small hours. Fortunately these enjoyments have not been affected by the frontier-style inflation that has raised entrance fees in some mainstream clubs and restaurants to over HK\$400!



Have a good time but safely, don't forget to pack the condoms and KY!
When you visit please send us an update of facilities.



ABOUT THE BOOKS...

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Just Say No

Larry Kramer (*The Normal Heart*) takes aim at America's rulers with a savage and hilarious satire, impaling our poohbahs on the shafts of their own hypocrisy.

Privates

Presents a story of two men on the eve of their fourth decade together.

Boys Like Us

A remarkable comedy about life, love and friendship in the age of AIDS.

Love Alone

Eighteen Elegies. Some of the most powerful and astonishing writing, with heart-breaking screams.

Sudden Strangers

The story of the relationship between a father and his Gay son.

Sacred Lips of the Bronx

Exciting, sexy, compelling and smart. A sensational novel that you won't want to put down.

Beyond Acceptance

Parents of Lesbians and Gays talk about their experiences.

Buddies

This is a book about relationships. Here are fathers and brothers and stories of men in their youth.

Epidemic of Courage

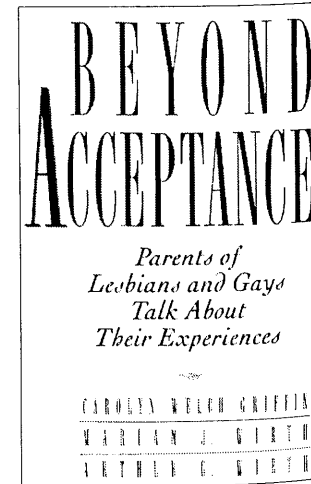
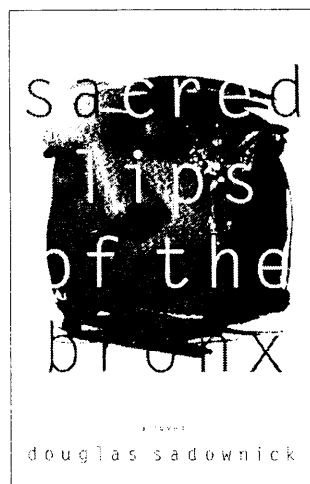
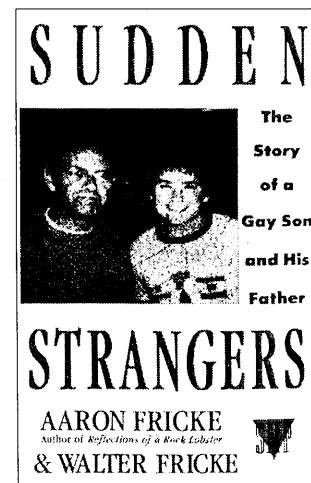
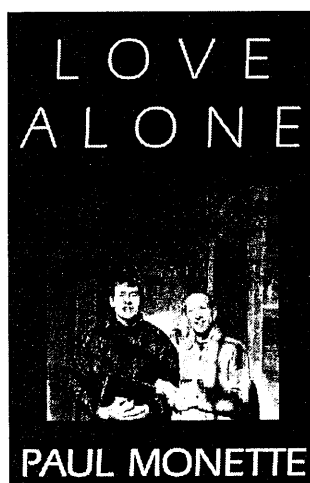
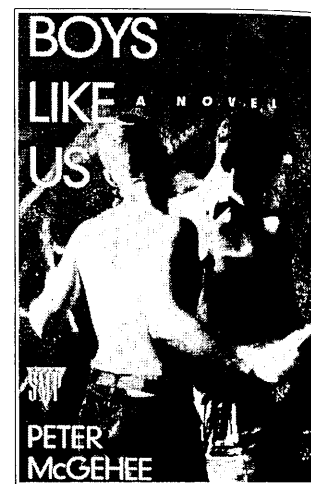
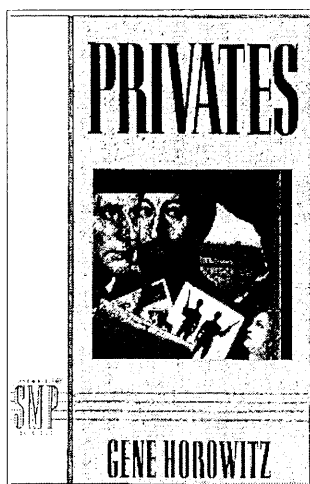
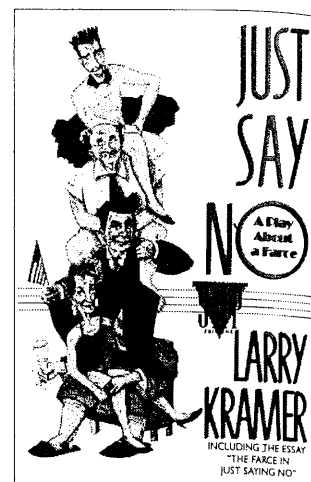
Facing the AIDS epidemic in America.

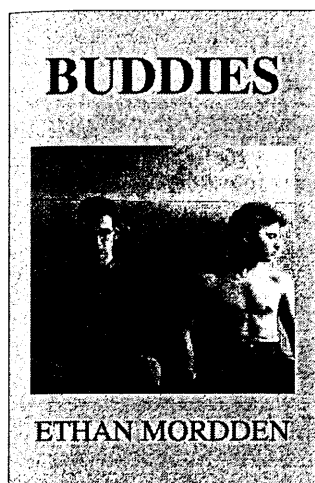
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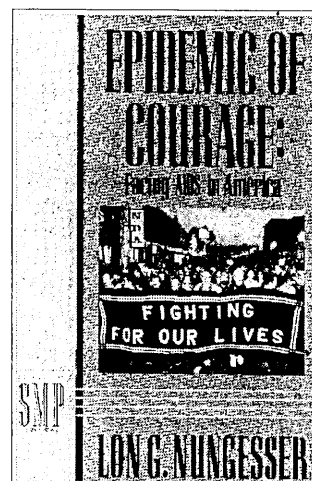
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PARISIAN LIVES



SAMUEL M STEWARD



King Wei and Longyang were fishing together in the same boat. Longyang began to shed tears.

"What are you crying for?" the king asked. "For the fish that I have got." Longyang answered. "But why?" the king asked. "For the several fish I got first, I was very glad about them. Later as bigger ones come in, I want to discard the smaller ones already in the bucket. With my poor luck, I am fortunate enough to serve the bed for your Majesty for favor. At that time I will be like the smallest fish in the bucket only to be discarded first. How can I not cry for this?"

Upon hearing this, King Wei decreed to the whole kingdom, "Those who dare to mention to the word 'beauty' be decapitated."

Note: The term "a heart for Longyang" (Longyang Zhi Xin) in Chinese refers to someone's homosexual tendency. England, France, Netherlands, & Australia have named their Asians & Friends groups Long Yang Clubs.

The Remaining Peach And Cutoff Sleeve

Dong Xian often accompanied Emperor Ai in a daytime nap and nighttime sleep. One night the emperor woke up and found that one sleeve of his robe was under Dong's body. In order not to disturb Dong in sleep, the emperor cut off his own sleeve with a sword so that he could get up for the restroom. From the next day on, all men in the palace cut their sleeves to meet the fashion.

Mizi was in favor with Emperor Wei. The law of Wei decreed that anyone riding the royal chariot without the emperor's permission be decapitated. One night Mize was told that his mother was seriously ill. Mizi rushed home in the royal chariot without the emperor's knowledge. Upon hearing this, Emperor Wei like Dong better and said: "What a loyal son who even dared to offend me for his mother's sake!" The other day while touring an orchard with the emperor, Mizi picked a peach and found it very sweet tasty. He presented the remaining half of the peach to the emperor, who was deeply moved and said, what a loyal man who even thinks of me for a peach!"

Note: The term "The remaining peach and cutoff sleeve" (yutao duanxiu) in Chinese refers to someone's significant other.

*Translated by Lin From Stories of Love,
Edited by Feng Menglong (1574-1645)*



LETTERS

Dear Editor

I had been warned, by friends, before I came to Hull, that it might not be the place I expected. They said there were no Gay bars or pubs, there might not even be any Gays. It was really a joke. How can a place not have Gays?

I want to introduce and claim as a crucial personal discovery an agency, AIDS Action North Humberside. It is an voluntary agency, set up in 1987 to provide services related to HIV for the North Humberside communities.

AIDS Action provides variety of services to the public. Some services are the same as AIDS Concern and Hong Kong AIDS Foundation, for instance, help-line, publicity, community support for people living with HIV and AIDS, counselling, budding, library service, and training.

From my own experience, the education of safer sex for men in Hong Kong is limited to distribute condoms in Gay discos and bars in Lan Kwai Fong; and the governmental propaganda of men having sex with men, equal to the way of contracting AIDS. Should I count it as education?

Here, apart from constructive activities, enabling men who have sex with men to make choices, about reducing the risk of HIV infection includes a drop-in centre, safer sex road-shows in pubs and night-clubs and street-based work. I think it much better than merely distributing condoms.

To anyone concerned about the issues of HIV/AIDS, I say don't hesitate to register as a volunteer to the nearest AIDS agency (in England). Before you start your volunteer life, you will take part in a foundation course which ought to give you basic but accurate information about HIV/AIDS, and safer sex. It not only useful information but also helps you to understand yourself more, in order to build up your self-

confidence. I am sure you will be benefit from the course as I did.

Apart from the knowledge of HIV/AIDS, drugs and safer sex, I have made a lot of supportive and helpful friends. They know when, where and how to extend a helping hand. In addition, my attitude towards HIV/AIDS is more positive and I know that HIV carriers and People with AIDS (PWA's) need not sympathy but care.

Maurice Hull, England

We are publishing this letter in an attempt to stimulate response and action from readers.

An Open Letter to Mr. Ian McFadzean:

Dear Ian,

I, amongst others in the Gay Community, are very proud of your efforts in obtaining the Chai Wan premises now used by AIDS Concern as their office. Apparently, you are singly responsible for convincing the Hong Kong Government that AIDS Concern is a charity worthy enough to be given government funded premises. You should be praised for your effort in Hong Kong's attempt to deal with the problem of AIDS.

However, you do not own the problem of AIDS - this belongs to all of us, in the Gay population. Look at the statistics, AIDS in Hong Kong still is a Gay problem. Even though the official statistics of HIV in non-Gay's are finally beginning to surpass Gay carriers, using the 10% statistic (there are 19 people in the world for every Gay man) we are almost twenty times as likely to be infected with HIV than non-Gays. Attempts by AIDS Concern, the HK Government, or anyone else to claim that AIDS is not a Gay disease merely by looking at the official incidence of HIV infection in Hong Kong are only beneficial if they generate non-Gay support for those infected with HIV. Statistics are very dangerous.

AIDS Concern was founded five years ago. Only sixteen months ago did they decide to target the Gay community. Prior to this, AIDS Concern made no effort to reach out to our community. Finally this summer a handful of "leaflet hander outers" began distributing condoms and safe sex flyers at one Gay venue a week. Bilingual safe sex flyers, paid for by a UK trust fund, are only now available from AIDS Concern. So what has happened to the cash donated by Hong Kong's Gay community?

We are about to throw a few hundred thousand dollars at AIDS Concern again when proceeds of the Beefcake Calendar are realised. What will AIDS Concern do for us? Give us an honorable mention in the next annual report?

Ian, when you tried to deny our community's interest in "Gay Pride," you made a completely homophobic ~~comment~~ out of yourself. Hong Kong has 6 million people, so there are at least 300,000 Gay people. Last month at the Godown, 600 men attended what will probably be our biggest event of the year - one out of every 500 Gay men in Hong Kong showed up.

Gay awareness is in its infancy in Hong Kong, not because no one cares, but because we are all so very closeted. Because we have no out Gay public figures, we have no strength to come out ourselves. Because the media in Hong Kong refuses to show the growth our movement has made around the world, few Gays in Hong Kong have the vision to know where we could and should be. Because images of Gays being broadcast through TV and radio are so negative, no one wants to be identified as Gay. Because working to make a difference takes much more effort than claiming "Gay rights aren't really so important," few Gays get involved in the mammoth task.

You don't need to be run over by a truck to know how dangerous one is. You don't have to be fired or evicted to be affected by discrimination - all you need is an intense fear of not being accepted for who you really are.

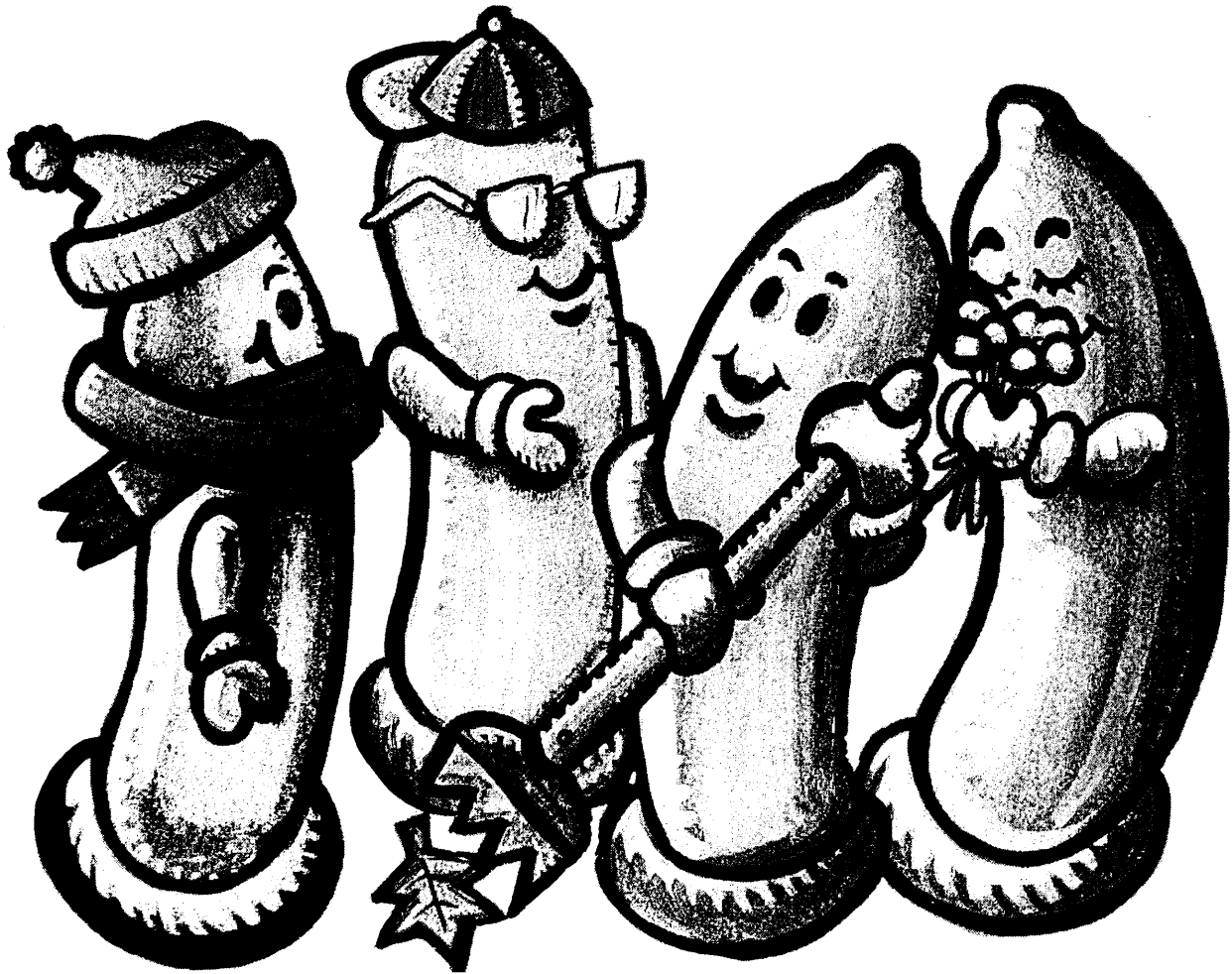
As a movement, the Gay community in Hong Kong is quite young, but we are just starting out. Our leaders are inexperienced and without mentorship.

Ian, if you have something worthwhile to say, then say it.

Robin Adams Mid-Levels

SAFE SEX

*any reason,
any season,*



**ALWAYS USE
A
CONDOM**

This page was sponsored by
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London's



Cross-dressing is the latest craze to hit the entertainment world and with Hollywood actors leading the way, London's underground drag scene has burst out of the closet with blazing colours.

Ebon-Knee, Ruby Venezuela and Regina Fong are just some of the cabaret performers entertaining straight and gay audiences at clubs such as Madame Jo Jo's and the

Way Out Bar, in London's Soho district.

They say drag has lost its seedy image and now draws a wider public, helped by the success of films like "Priscilla, Queen of the Desert," and the forthcoming "To Wong Foo, thanks for everything, Julie Newmar," in which action heroes Wesley Snipes and Patrick Swayze don high heels and wigs to play drag queens. "I would say that 30 percent of our customers are straight," says Steve Bell, manager of Madame Jo Jo's.

"A lot of straight people want to find out about the drag scene, not because they want to get involved in it, but they want

to be able to see it," he says. "It's like looking into a goldfish bowl."

"Drag has been going on for ages, but it's only now that it's getting such a high profile," says Alex, assistant manager and waitress at the club where he is known as "Barbie."

Alex is slim, with never-ending legs and impossibly narrow hips — only a hint of stubble betrays his androgynous beauty as male. In full make-up, he is so glamorous that many customers refuse to believe they are watching a man.

At the other end of the spectrum, Regina Fong, aka Reginald Bundy, attracts a

DR

rowdy crowd of mostly gay men to his ultra-camp variety shows at the "Black Cap" pub in north London. Bundy has performed in drag for nearly 20 years and says audiences are more mixed now because drag acts are becoming politically correct.

"It was really very unpleasant for women to watch drag," says Bundy. "You used to have drag acts and they'd always do a pregnant scene, and they'd bring out cucumbers, and it was really putting down women." "I think that's stopped," he adds. "Now people bring their girlfriends and they don't feel as threatened by it anymore."

But if drag is all the rage, transvestism still has a sordid image and many men hide the habit from family and friends.

At "Adam as Eve," a small salon with tinted windows in a busy high street, men pay to receive make-overs and wear themed outfits ranging from demure brides to black lace and garters. Josie Cahill, a blue-eyed Irish woman with a gentle, comforting voice, says she has received 800 phone calls since she opened the salon in September and 18 people have already used the facilities.

"This seems to be a fantasy for the

AG



Scène

By Jason Leung

men who come in but it's not a sexual fantasy," Cahill says. "They're happy enough to get dressed and walk around, read magazines, watch TV and have a drink and they don't pester you for anything else."

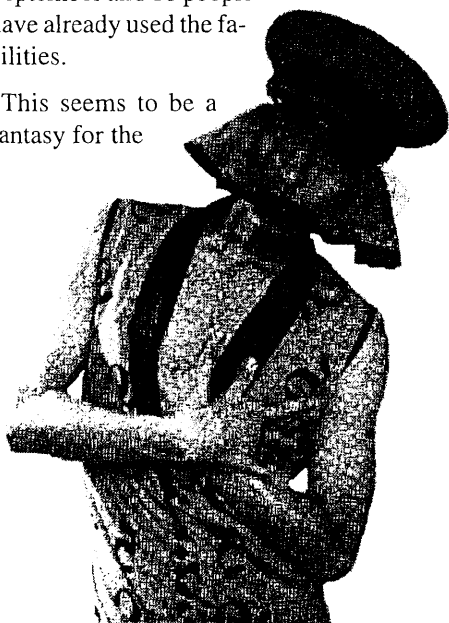
"I would say about 70 to 75 percent of them are what we call closet (secret) dressers," she says. "I see a lot of personalities change as well as clothes," Cahill says. "They're trying to keep up this macho image all the time and the clothes just let them escape from that. "It's becoming more acceptable, but I don't think it's happening fast enough."

Some drag artists think there is a risk that audiences will become saturated and turn

to new thrills. Others are angry that the makers of "Priscilla" and "To Wong Foo" are putting straight actors like Patrick Swayze in the principal roles.

"Having three heterosexuals playing the characters annoyed me immensely," says Bundy, referring to "Priscilla," the widely-acclaimed Australian film about a group of drag queens who cross the outback in a silver bus.

"Drag is part of gay culture, and then you get heterosexuals in the way being voyeuristic and making films, but not with gays, because that's not acceptable," Bundy says. "Why can't they get a gay person to do it? After all it's our story."



Don't forget us

Fifty years after the liberation of the Nazi concentration camps, a small group of elderly gay men have released a statement calling for recognition of the suffering of gay prisoners. It is the first time that men imprisoned for homosexuality by the Nazis have acknowledged themselves publicly as a group.

"Today we are told and tired to struggle for the recognition of the Nazi injustice we suffered. Many of us never dared to testify. Many gay men and lesbian women died alone with their haunting memories. We wait long, but in vain, for a clear political and financial gesture of the German government and courts," they say.

"Today, 50 years later, we turn to the younger generation and to all of you who are not guided by hate and homophobia. Please support us in our struggle to memorialise and document the Nazi atrocities against Jews, Gypsies, the disabled, Jehovah's Witnesses, Freemasons, Polish and Russian and prisoners of war, resistance fighters, homosexuals as well as many other.

"And let us learn from the past and let us support the young generation of lesbian women and gay men, girls and boys to lead, unlike us, a life indignity and respect...There is no future without acknowledgement of the past."

Reminding the world that gay men have been unsuccessful in securing compensation for their imprisonment because homosexuality was a crime in Germany until 1969, the men say: "No member of the SS had to face a trial for the murder or persecution of gay men or lesbian women in or outside the camps. They now enjoy a pension for their 'work' in the camps, our years in the camps are subtracted from our pension."

Speaking to the *New York Times* about his search for material to tell the story of the Nazis' gay victims, Muller told of meeting the surviving partner of Josef Kohout, prisoner 1896 at Flossenburg concentration camp. Kohout's story was told anonymously in Heninz Heger's 1972 book *The Men with the Pink Triangle*. Now, some years after Kohout's death, his newly re-discovered pink triangle and his journals and letters will be displayed at the museum to bear witness to the suffering of gay men under the Nazis.

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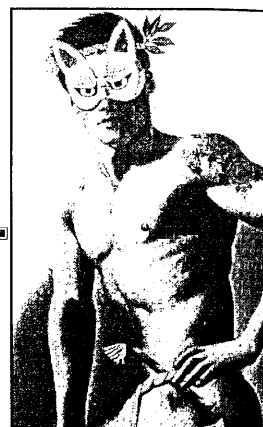
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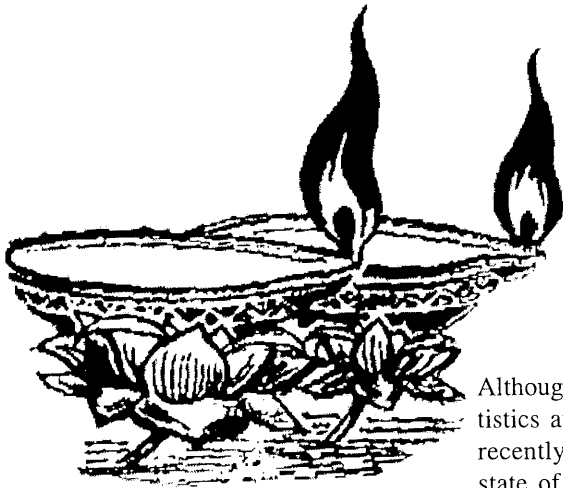


Guy's photo

India's Dilemma

By Yassur Eslim

BOMBAY DOST

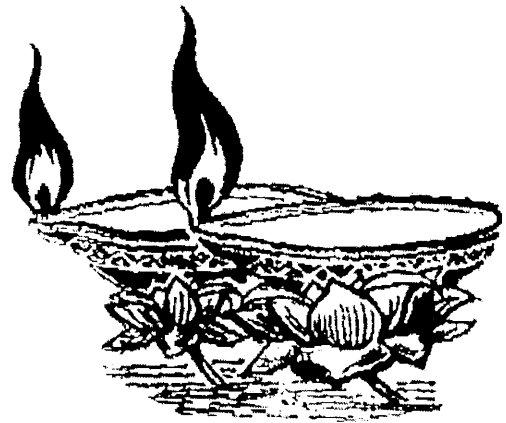


Last month, Ashok Row Kavi, founder of Bombay Dost (India's only Gay magazine), chairperson of the Hamsafar Trust, and one of India's eminent gay activists gave a slide presentation in the US, on AIDS in India and its relationship to sexuality.

Although there is little information or statistics available on AIDS in India, until recently, the government has been in a state of denial, taking a reactive stance rather than a pro-active one, even while millions of Indians are HIV positive.

Activists such as Ashok, are advocates for detailed studies of male sexual behaviour and the spread of AIDS in India. The presentation was attended by a few KHUSH members, other interested individuals, and a photographer and reporter from 'The Washington Blade'. There was also a very long interesting discussion on Bombay Dost and gay activism in India.

Earlier in the month, I had arranged for Ashok to give a presentation through the office of HIV services and information at USAID. He also taped a short segment to be aired on an Indian program on local cable, that was organised by another



KHUSH member. All in all, it was a busy, but fun weekend.

Ashok return to India last week where he has to appear in court about the Gandhi incident on TV. We wish him well, and hope that this 'tamasha' will be put to an end soon, so that he and his colleagues at Bombay Dost can continue with the important work they have begun.

I speak not only for myself and KHUSH members, in saying that we are strongly supportive of Bombay Dost and the outreach efforts of The Hamsafar Trust.

Only when the Indian Government take notice of such activists and agencies like Bombay Dost and Ashok will we be able to start getting education to the masses. And that's just the start of trying to get the AIDS pandemic under control.



fifi



Tells All...

Over The Hill

Dear Fifi,

I am new in town, and am looking for a lover. Can you make any suggestions as to how to find a like-minded compatible 45 year old like me? I have been to the bars and clubs, but everyone there seems to be young, and very much into bodies. Pleas help me out.

Over the Hill

Dear Mr. Hill,

Didn't you know that being over 40 and Gay is illegal in Hong Kong? I have absolutely no idea what to tell you as I don't have any idea what someone over 30 does to meet people in this town. (believe it or not, I have no personal experience in these age ranges!) My best guess is to join and old folks home, or steal a few million dollars. Money attracts more boys in this town than shit attracts flies.

Latex

Dear Fifi,

I have been living with a man who I love deeply for many year. Recently he started bring sex toys home. I didn't mind the dirty magazines, and even the studded cock rings. But lately he has been moving away from even the dildos with the suction cups on bottom into more kinky items; he has hidden them all over the house. I try to accommodate him and play along with him and his toys when we're having sex even though I prefer his own body, its appendages, and their associated orifices.

However, last week I opened up the bedroom closet to find his collection of toys

all in one location. I felt like I had found the spare parts section of K-mart's Paraplegic Department. And just last night he brought home a forty pound latex fire hydrant that would double his waist size if he ever really sat on it. I don't know what to do as his obsession is leaving me empty in more ways than one.

Signed, love of a latex lover

Dear Mr. Latex,

Look on the bright side....at least you won't be needing smoke detectors any time soon!

Bewildered

Dear Fifi,

Recently I was at the Central Escalator Sauna, having my semi weekly colonic, when I happened to see several men parading up and down the locker aisle as if they were fashion models high on drugs. I rationalised to myself that boys will be boys, and tried to concentrate on the next thing coming my way, but my friend told me that he thought you were among the paraders. Could this be true?

Bewildered

Dear Bewildered,

Boys will usually only be boys at the sauna, and someone has to be the girls, so Hornae and I took the job into our own hands. The fashion parade wouldn't even have taken place if I hadn't been bored to tears waiting for my own colonic. Perhaps you could arrange for the entertainment next week, as there doesn't seem to be much when you're in the place. And for you information, I happen to be a drag addict, not a drug addict. Thank you very much! But just for the record, and I'd like to set it

straight, I was in the sauna on a mission as a representative of the Extra Large Penis Haters Association of the New Territories. (ELPHANT for short) We were inspecting the premises in consideration of holding our annual conference at the Central Escalator. And based on my very thorough survey of that night, I am confident that we won't be bumping into any extra large ones there soon. I'm happy to report that you are probably very directly responsible for this decision.

And while we're on the subject of saunas. I recently uncovered this little tidbit on saunas researched by the Pomona College Department of Anthropology back in the motherland. They learned that men who go to saunas 1-engage in less risky sex, 2-are more knowledgeable about AIDS, 3-have reduced their risky behaviour to a greater extent than men who do not go to saunas. They go on to say that number of partners has now been discredited as a risk factor in HIV transmission. But they do insist that you must use a condom every time, every where, and with every partner. The anthropologists warn us that just because if we only have sex at home, this does not reduce the risk of HIV contact. And just because you have a lover, you are not immune to HIV infection.

But why there are no safe sex materials or condoms conspicuously distributed around the saunas in Hong Kong still remains an unanswered question as far as I'm concerned. Always wear a condom. Remember: HIV is bad; sex is good!

Until next time, keep the condoms coming. And if you have any more scintillating questions, you can reach Fifi at Box 555 Contacts Magazine.

MY LOVE

by Steve Rider

Hearing his voice on the phone does it. Seeing him is almost overpowering. When we touch I am invincible. Nothing can hurt me when we are together. I become clever and witty and charming and so completely relaxed. He is my lover, my boyfriend, my man, my significant other.

I know how sensitive he is. A lot of other people don't.

He seems to be strong, and he is strong, but he has feelings like everyone else. Over the weeks and months, many times when we are together, he opens up to me. As lovers or even friends will do, we talk to each other about our lives. But we talk about the parts that are usually not shared. The very personal parts, secrets.

He knows me pretty well. He knows how my mind works, he understands why I am so "Out" these days. He finds me cute in some way, so I am. He admires me and I admire him. His sister wants to meet me. My sister wants to meet him.

We met through a gay BBS that is associated with High Tech Gays. I was very new here. I was missing everyone from my home town. I posted a message telling eve-

ryone that I was new in town and lonely. Quite a few people replied. I carried on a little dialogue in E-mail with four or five of them. He is the only one I decided to meet. I've never regretted it.

Sometimes we just climb into bed and go to sleep together, no sex, just touching each other. Sometimes I listen to the music of his snoring. I get up to take a leak and he asks if I'm OK.

I never knew, years ago, that I could have a lover and it could be so smooth and calm and peaceful. My life was full of energy that needed an outlet. The nicest thing about having a lover, to me at least, is having someone you can talk to.

Someone who will listen to trivial things as well as important things. Someone who cares.

I never use the "L word" around him. He has this image of himself that it does not fit into. I wouldn't want him to change at all. So we just snuggle up, or hold hands, or make passionate love together. Who needs words?

I don't have the sense that this is a permanent thing with us. I can see it ending, and each of us going our own way, but if that does happen someday I'll have a treas-

ure to keep forever. Of course I can also see it continuing, there are no danger signs, no little problems eating at us. So far it is working.

One night recently we were in the city visiting a straight friend of his, someone he has known for twenty years. We were watching TV and having a few beers. He was in a chair on one side of the room, his friend in the middle on another chair, I was on the other side of the room. Without a word spoken I got up, walked over in front of him, sat on the floor between his legs, and just leaned back. It wasn't so much that I was horny or anything of that sort. I just wanted to touch him, to be right next to him. He put his legs tightly against my chest and sort of hugged me with his knees. He put his feet on my lap. He understood perfectly.

Later this week his sister will be in town. She is gay too. Lesbian if you prefer that term. I'm anxious to meet her and her lover. But there is a bit of nervousness too. What if they ask about our relationship? Suppose they joke with us about getting married? I guess I will follow his lead, it's his sister.

My sons have met him. They spoke highly of him later. They are clearly aware of the nature of our relationship. My oldest boy remarked on how different I seemed around him. It was like I was a new person, he said. So I guess it can't be all in my imagination, can it?

Who knows? The future could hold just about anything for us. I know one thing, the present is wonderful.

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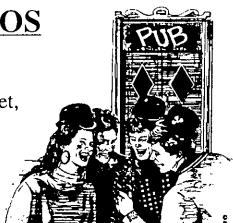
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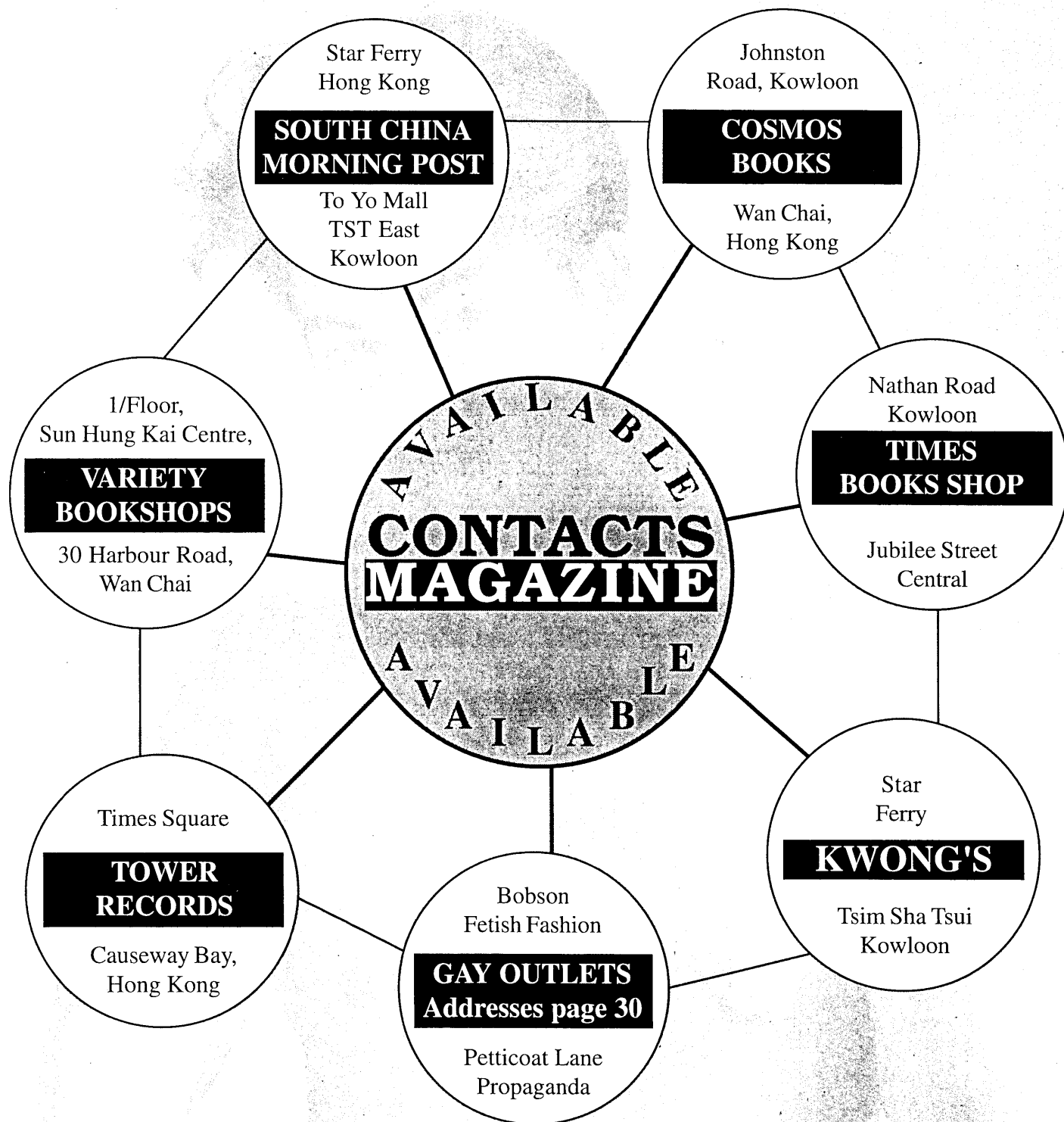
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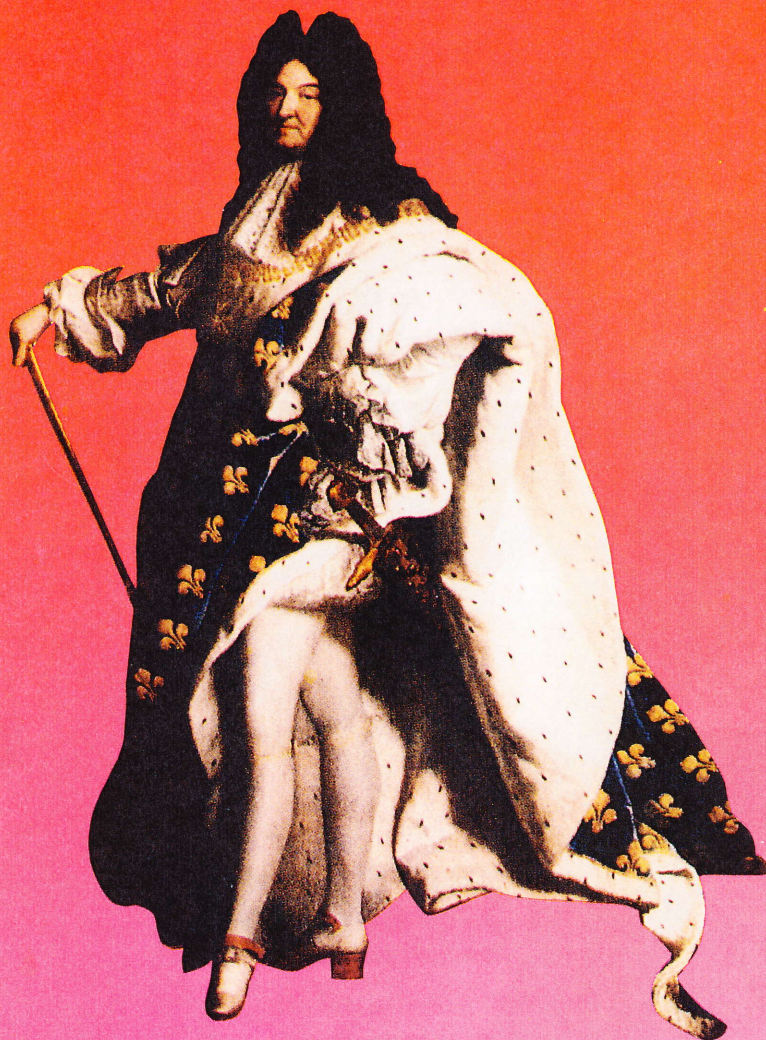
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